

## **FY 2012 IDEA Budget Amendments – Due Date Extended to August 31**

There have been several requests to extend the normal July 15 deadline for budget amendments this year in light of concerns LEAs have regarding meeting the maintenance of effort requirement. Understanding that LEAs need an appropriate amount of time to make sure that this requirement is met, the deadline for FY 2012 flow-through and preschool budget amendments has been reset to August 31, 2012. Final claims for FY 2012 are still due September 30, 2012.

### **Allocating Software Programs**

Over the past couple of years, the Special Education team has received questions on whether or not a portion of a software package's cost, used by multiple departments, could be charged to the IDEA flow-through grant. The types of programs we have been asked about include READ 180, NovaNet, WordQ, Plato, etc. – programs that are used by both general education and special education, but for different purposes.

The answer to allowability depends entirely on how the software program is being used. Here are three scenarios and the funding options:

The LEA purchases 20 READ 180 licenses to provide specialized reading instruction to students with disabilities by a special education teacher. The cost of all 20 licenses may be charged to the IDEA flow-through grant.

The LEA purchases 70 READ 180 licenses. Of these licenses, 50 are used by a licensed general education reading teacher to provide reading interventions to all students identified as struggling in reading. The group receiving general education reading interventions is made up of both students with and without disabilities. None of the 50 licenses purchased for general education may be charged to the IDEA flow-through grant as they are being used to deliver general education, and are therefore not an excess cost. The remaining 20 READ 180 licenses are used to provide specialized reading instruction to students with disabilities. The cost of these 20 licenses may be charged to the IDEA flow-through grant as they are being used to provide special education instruction.

The LEA purchases 50 READ 180 licenses to provide general education reading interventions to all students identified as struggling in reading. The group receiving general education reading interventions is made up of both students with and without disabilities. None of the 50 licenses purchased for general education may be charged to the IDEA flow-through grant as they are being used to deliver general education, and are therefore not an excess cost.

\*\*\*This listserv message was updated to include the words “flow-through” when referring to special education funding. The READ 180 licenses for general education could be charged to the CEIS portion of the IDEA grant.